

Trash Talk!

hi kids!

The Sunflower Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area operates a grassroots, regional program to educate citizens about and promote composting, recycling and waste reduction in the south central Kansas counties of Barber, Comanche, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt and Sumner. This RC&D Area serves more than 70 communities and 100,000 people.

Sunflower RC&D produces and distributes a regional "Recycle and Reuse" directory. They help local communities establish composting programs. They operate an area-wide household hazardous waste collection program. In their most recent project, they run a regional recycling cooperative to sort recyclables for marketing to manufacturers. They even have a recycling trailer that accepts recyclables in some communities.

They host Master Composter workshops, as well as conduct mini-composting workshops, for people who want

to learn to compost and use the finished compost in backyard gardens. Not satisfied with having people come to them, they have built a compost demonstration trailer that is a portable, outdoor classroom with 10 different bins including two working composting bins. The trailer shows people how easy—and important—composting is.

Education is a big part of the Sunflower RC&D's efforts. They are involved in many environmental education efforts in their area. They will even come to schools to make presentations.

Their activities cover more than just recycling and composting. They also work with communities on preventing water pollution, protecting wetlands, promoting tourism, training community leaders, writing funding proposals, and improving local economies.

**KANSAS
DON'T SPOIL IT!**



**A quarterly newsletter of
Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment
Bureau of Waste Management
Spring 2001**



**Hey,
kids!**

How are we doing? What do you think about Trash Talk!? What do you like? Is there anything you don't like? Do you have suggestions for us? Ideas for how we can make it more fun and informative? Call, write or e-mail us with your comments. Thanks!

FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING...

Figurative language is all around us. When you read "The Wildcats clawed their way to the top," you probably think that a sports team called the Wildcats won a game. You know that because you understand metaphors. Metaphors and similes explain something by comparing it to or describing it as something else. Below, complete the sentences with the part of speech noted. Then circle at the right whether the statement is a simile or a metaphor. (Hint: Similes use "like" or "as"; metaphors don't.) We've done the first one for you.

1. White, recycled paper is as **BRIGHT** as the sun.
adjective
2. Recycled plastic lumber is like _____, but it doesn't have to be painted.
noun
3. Playground surfaces made from shredded tires are as _____ as pillows.
adjective
4. The washing machine was on its last _____, almost ready for the recycler.
noun
5. Steel cans are _____ cars in disguise.
adjective
6. Today's newspaper and tomorrow's egg _____ might be cousins.
noun
7. Recycled aluminum _____ are like energy-saving light bulbs.
noun
8. Grass _____ are heroes to healthy lawns.
noun
9. Used books are like _____ friends.
adjective

Simile Metaphor

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A MAZE MULTIPLICATION

To learn a little more about the process glass goes through in going from one jar to another ("closed loop recycling"), follow the path through the multiplication maze below. Even though all of these problems have been done, some of them are wrong. Connect the problems with the correct answers to find the path from the recyclable glass jars (at the top) to the recycled-content glass bottles (at the bottom). Correct the wrong answers. When you're done, label the stages.

$$\begin{array}{r} 794 \\ \times 67 \\ \hline 53,198 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4,110 \\ \times 76 \\ \hline 312,360 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 233 \\ \times 23 \\ \hline 5,415 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,059 \\ \times 36 \\ \hline 39,124 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 111 \\ \times 15 \\ \hline 1,765 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 256 \\ \times 92 \\ \hline 21,552 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7,898 \\ \times 89 \\ \hline 702,922 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 404 \\ \times 62 \\ \hline 25,048 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 576 \\ \times 12 \\ \hline 6,943 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,720 \\ \times 51 \\ \hline 495,720 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,001 \\ \times 73 \\ \hline 146,073 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 325 \\ \times 50 \\ \hline 16,250 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 743 \\ \times 48 \\ \hline 36,564 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 976 \\ \times 81 \\ \hline 69,056 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 755 \\ \hline 8,305 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,345 \\ \times 28 \\ \hline 93,660 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 199 \\ \times 77 \\ \hline 15,323 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 417 \\ \times 86 \\ \hline 35,862 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,473 \\ \times 63 \\ \hline 407,799 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 598 \\ \times 58 \\ \hline 34,684 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 642 \\ \times 74 \\ \hline 47,508 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 187 \\ \times 18 \\ \hline 3,266 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9,164 \\ \times 46 \\ \hline 421,544 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 222 \\ \times 15 \\ \hline 3,330 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2,124 \\ \times 39 \\ \hline 82,836 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 839 \\ \times 99 \\ \hline 83,061 \end{array}$$

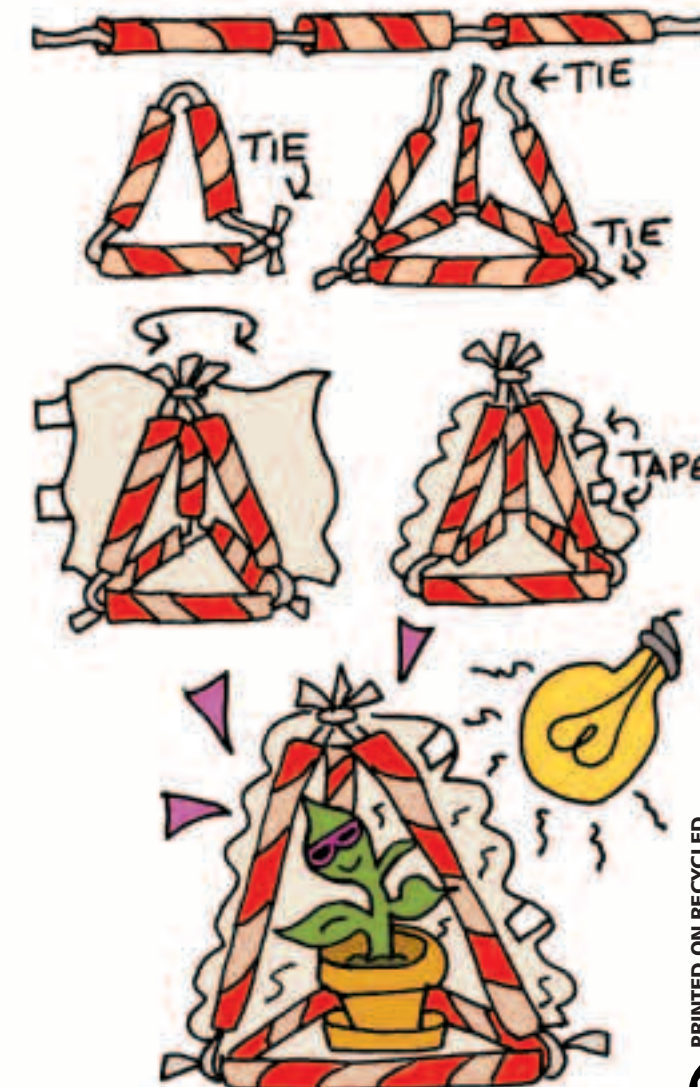
$$\begin{array}{r} 5,030 \\ \times 85 \\ \hline 427,550 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 923 \\ \times 34 \\ \hline 31,382 \end{array}$$

POWERFUL PYRAMIDS

1. Thread string through three straws placed end-to-end.
2. Bring the ends of the string together, so the straws form a triangle. Then, tie the string. This will be the base of your pyramid.
3. Cut three pieces of string a few inches longer than the remaining straws.
4. Tie one piece of string to each corner of the base.
5. Thread the strings through the straws, one at a time.
6. Bring the loose strings and straws together above the base. Then tie the strings together, and trim the ends.
7. Cover the sides of the pyramid with plastic wrap and tape it in place.

Now, you're ready to place a plant in your greenhouse and see how it grows!



"PAIR"ADISE

Pair up with a partner. Work together to plan a "spring cleaning" project for your classroom or playground. List what will need to be done. Then, figure out how many people will be needed to accomplish each task. (For instance, how many people would be needed to sort books or clean erasers?) Decide how unneeded items will be sorted. Will you have a swap box or donation container for reusables? What recyclables will be collected? What will you do with trash? When you're done, make a chart, grid, map or other illustration that will show the tasks, how many people will be needed, how materials will be sorted, and anything else you think the class needs to know. Share your results with the class. Discuss how and why the groups' plans differ and in what ways they are similar.

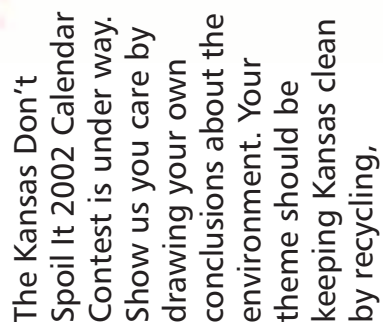


When we recycle, we keep our used products from going to waste. We also help reduce pollution, conserve energy, save non-renewable natural resources, create job and limit our need for landfill space. According to the organization Environmental Defense, recycling is saving enough energy to power 9 million homes each year. Recycle all you can, as often as you can.

However, remember that you're not done recycling after you've dropped off material or taken it to the curb for pickup. You also need to buy recycled. Whether it's school supplies or storage containers, you help create markets for recyclables every time you purchase recycled-content products. Look for the recycled-content symbol when you shop! Ask stores to carry recycled-content products. Buy paper with a minimum of 30 percent post-consumer recycled content.

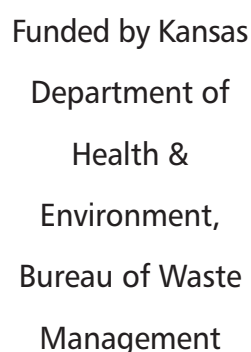
Good recycling involves capturing all the recyclables you can, but it also includes preparing them properly. Cans, bottles and jars should be emptied and thoroughly rinsed. Caps and lids should be removed and discarded in the trash. Flatten plastic

and metal containers whenever possible. Paper should be clean and dry. Know what you can (and cannot) recycle locally. Recyclables that are correctly sorted and prepared are the most useful and the most valuable. Be a good recycler!



composting, properly disposing, buying recycled, cleaning up litter or similar activities. Entries are due no later than May 4, 2001. For a copy of the contest rules, call us at 1-800-282-9790 or e-mail bcarreno@kdhe.state.ks.us.

We have some grant funding available for school recycling programs. There are schools across Kansas that are already recycling paper, cardboard, metal and more. Some schools are even composting. If you'd like to learn how your school can start or expand recycling and composting programs with our help, have your teacher or principal give us a call.



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